

2019-novel Coronavirus (SARS-CoV2) Testing Instructions

SARS-CoV2 Testing is Now Performed at DCLS

All suspected patients under investigation (PUIs) must be evaluated and approved for testing by the Virginia Department of Health (VDH) prior to submission to DCLS. Contact your local health department epidemiology representative for assistance.

I. TESTING SUMMARY:

- **SARS-CoV2 real time RT-PCR testing** - Detection of the 2019 novel Coronavirus
- **Influenza real time RT-PCR testing** - Detection of Influenza A and B viruses
- **Reflex RVP testing (if SARS-CoV2 and Influenza negative)** - Detection of the following viruses:
 - (1) Influenza A/H3
 - (2) Influenza A/2009 H1N1
 - (3) Influenza B
 - (4) Human Rhinovirus
 - (5) Human Metapneumovirus
 - (6) Parainfluenza-1, 2 and 3
 - (7) Respiratory Syncytial Virus A and B (RSV-A, RSV-B)
 - (8) Adenovirus B/E and C

II. SPECIMEN COLLECTION:

- Testing is performed on respiratory specimens only.
- Lower and upper respiratory specimens are **PREFERRED** for SARS-CoV2 testing.
- Influenza and RVP testing will be performed on the nasopharyngeal swab specimen only.
- Dry NP and OP swabs are **NOT** acceptable specimens.
- Lower respiratory, wash and aspirate specimens can be collected in a sterile, leak-proof container.
- Store and ship specimens refrigerated at 4°C.

SPECIMEN TYPES:

- **Lower respiratory tract specimens – Collect 1 of the listed options:**
 - 1) Sputum, if patient has productive cough (induced not indicated)
 - 2) 2-3 mL bronchoalveolar lavage or tracheal aspirate
- **Upper respiratory tract specimens – Collect 1 of the listed options:**
 - 1) (**PREFERRED**) 1 nasopharyngeal (NP) swab and 1 oropharyngeal (OP) swab each in 3-4 mL VTM ***(separate vials of VTM)***
 - 2) 2-3 mL nasopharyngeal wash/aspirate
 - 3) 2-3 mL nasal aspirate

III. SPECIMEN SUBMISSION:

- Complete the DCLS Micro_Viro Form and indicate “**2019 novel Coronavirus testing**” on the form.
- Package and ship specimens refrigerated on ice packs as Category B (UN 3373).
- DCLS will coordinate courier pick-up of specimens.
- **Specimens cannot be shipped to DCLS without advance notification to DCLS.**
- Use of the DCLS 2019-novel Coronavirus kit (**see section V**) to collect and ship specimens is recommended.

IV. TURNAROUND TIME/REPORTING:

- SARS-CoV2 and Influenza results will be reported 3-5 hours after receipt of specimens at DCLS (SARS-CoV2 Real Time RT-PCR Assay fact sheets for patients and physicians can be found on the DCLS website, under “Hot Topics”).
- RVP results will be reported within 2-3 business days after influenza testing.
- Verbal reporting of SARS-CoV2 and Influenza results will be provided to the submitter, VDH and local health department on the same day as testing.
- Hard copy test results will be sent within 2 business days after testing is complete. A preliminary report may be sent if RVP testing is pending.

V. DCLS SARS-CoV2 Specimen Collection/Shipping Kits:

- DCLS has pre-positioned 1 collection/shipping kit at each sentinel laboratory and health department.
- A replacement kit can be requested by contacting the DCLS Kits Department after submitting specimens for testing.
- Laboratories can provide their own materials to collect and ship specimens in compliance with IATA and DOT regulations.

Component	Quantity/kit
Viral transport media (VTM) tubes– (subject to expiration)	2
Sterile flocked swab, plastic applicator - (subject to expiration)	2
50 mL plastic Falcon tube	2
Category B Insulated Shipper w/instructions	1
Biohazard Bag STP-711	3
Tyvek Biohazard Bag STP-710 (Secondary Pressure Receptacle)	1
Compartmental bubble pouch	1
Ice Pack	2
Parafilm 2"x250' Roll	1
12" x 15" Zip lock bag with order documents	1
2019-novel Coronavirus instructions	1
DCLS Clinical Micro_Viro Form (QID #16857)	1
SAFTPAK Packaging Instructions	1
Warning Label	1

VI. CONTACT INFORMATION: Contact DCLS to request kits, coordinate testing and courier transport of specimens.

- **DCLS 24/7 Emergency Number:** 804-335-4617
- **Lead Scientist, Dr. LaToya Griffin-Thomas:** 804-385-8057
- **DCLS Kits Department:** 804-648-4480, x104

VII. REFERENCES:

- CDC 2019-nCoV: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>
- Health department locator: <http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/health-department-locator/>
- DCLS Micro_Viro Form: https://dgs.virginia.gov/globalassets/document-center/dcls-forms/clinical-microbiology_virology-request-form-16857-1.pdf
- DCLS "Hot Topics" web link: [DCLS "Hot Topics" web link: https://dgs.virginia.gov/division-of-consolidated-laboratory-services/updates/hot-topics/](https://dgs.virginia.gov/division-of-consolidated-laboratory-services/updates/hot-topics/)
- FDA Emergency Use Authorization: <https://www.fda.gov/medical-devices/emergency-situations-medical-devices/emergency-use-authorizations#coronavirus2019>